



CARPENTER SHOP, HANCOCK STREET MISSION, LOUISVILLE, KY.

The work of the Presbyterian Colored Missions of Louisville is of a practical kind and includes manual training to fit boys for good service. Forty-seven boys, in 1908, were in the carpenter shop. The great need for continuing the work is funds.

instruction. He gained permission from the superintendent of the Reform School for Boys to work in the carpenter shop. The instructor gave him personal attention and, under his direction, he was able, by several months' hard work, to keep ahead of the class and master the fundamental principles of wood work. The next lesson, when the boy returned, he completed his bed. Only three legs touched the floor. The superintendent, in the meantime, had learned the use of, and applied, a square, cut down the uneven legs, and the bed stood plumb. The boy was delighted, and from that time looked upon him as his rightful instructor. At each lesson new tools became necessary, and they were added one by one, the boys and the superintendent together learning how to use them.

Boys Volunteer to Repair Building

In a few months it was decided to wainscot the mission room, and the superintendent called for volunteers in his class in carpentry. They volunteered unanimously, and he was forced to make a choice. With their assistance the room was wainscoted. They had learned how to square, saw, and plane lumber, as the class in scroll work developed into a class in

carpentry. The boys in this class were led to take a deep interest in their work by being allowed to make things which they could use. When a boy made a request for an article, he was required to make a rough drawing. These drawings were exceedingly crude, and it was necessary sometimes to name them in order to know the object designated. These drawings were submitted at one lesson, and work on the object was begun at some later period. The intervening time allowed the superintendent to study the construction of the various articles and plan a simple mode for their execution. Toy furniture for a younger brother and sister were made by many boys, and these articles were found in the homes of the colored people years after they were turned out from the shop — the highly prized possessions of some younger brother or sister. Tables, benches (seats), footstools, picture frames, salt boxes, towel racks, cabinets, bookcases, ironing boards, and wagons have gone out of the shop to the homes of the people. It is a daily occurrence to see a boy carrying the washing that his mother does to and from the home of her employer in a wagon made with his own hands in our shop. This shop has brought the largest returns to the mission of any of the departments. Seats